



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.F. Dalia et al.

Attorney Docket No.: MSFT120701

Application No.: 10/606,626

Group Art Unit: 2186

Filed: June 25, 2003

Title: LOOKUP PARTITIONING STORAGE SYSTEM AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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December 5, 2003

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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicants are aware of the information listed in the attached form that may be material to the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

1. X Copies of the listed publications are enclosed for the Examiner's use.
2. X Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the national application (other than a CPA), within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE.
3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, and is accompanied by:
 - a. a certification statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or
 - b. the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Check No. in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.
4. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes

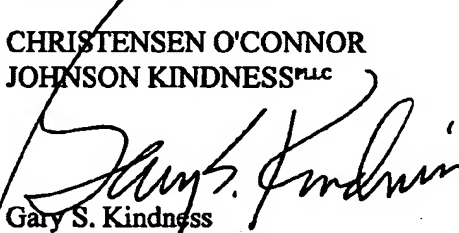
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prosecution, but before or simultaneous with payment of the issue fee. The Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a certification statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) and the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Check No. _____ in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.

5. _____ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by a statement that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application. Such communication was received by an individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) on _____, which is not more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
6. _____ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this document is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

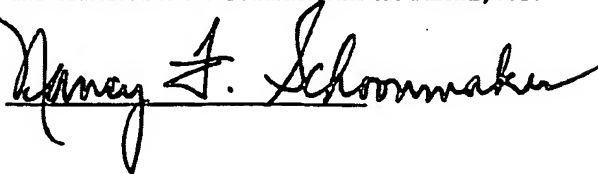
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Gary S. Kindness
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

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INFORMATION CITED BY APPLICANTS THAT MAY BE MATERIAL TO THE PROSECUTION OF THE SUBJECT APPLICATION

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Cite	Kind	Date	
Initials No. Document No. Code (mm/dd/yyyy) Name			

NONE

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Cite	Kind	Publication Date	Country	English
Initial No. Document No. Code (mm/dd/yyyy)				Abstract Translation
				Provided Provided

NONE

OTHER INFORMATION

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

*Examiner Cite	
Initial No.	

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|-------|----|--|
| _____ | O1 | Azar, Y., et al., "Balanced Allocations," <i>Siam J. Comput.</i> 29(1):180-200, 1999. |
| _____ | O2 | Brodsky, D., et al., "Using File-Grain Connectivity to Implement a Peer-to-Peer File System," <i>Proceedings of the 21st IEEE Symposium on Reliable Distributed Systems</i> , Osaka, Japan, October 13-16, 2002, 6 pages. |
| _____ | O3 | Dabek, F., et al., "Building Peer-to-Peer Systems With Chord, a Distributed Lookup Service," <i>Proceedings of the 8th Conference on Hot Topics in Operating Systems</i> , Elmau/Oberbayern, Germany, May 2001, pp. 81-86. |

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- _____ O4 Ratnasamy, S., et al., "A Scalable Content-Addressable Network," *Proceedings of ACM SIGCOMM 2001*, San Diego, California, August 2001, pp. 27-31.
- _____ O5 Rowstron, A., and P. Druschel, "Storage Management and Caching in PAST, a Large-Scale, Persistent Peer-to-Peer Storage Utility," *Proceedings of the 18th ACM Symposium on Operating Systems Principles*, Lake Louise, Canada, October 21-24, 2001, pp. 188-201.

Examiner

Date Considered

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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